

SPECIAL
AFTERNOON
EDITION

The Hongkong Telegraph

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February 12 1916. Temperature 6 a.m. 50 2 p.m. 70
Humidity 80

February 12 1915. Temperature 6 a.m. 70 2 p.m. 87
Humidity 75 79

WEATHER FORECAST
OVERCAST
Barometer 30.16

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1916.

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LATEST WAR TELEGRAMS.

THE BALKAN SITUATION: GERMAN AND AUSTRIAN ANXIETY.

HEAVY GERMAN BANK FAILURES.

Norwegian Steamer Mined.

CHINESE ON BOARD TORPEDOED DUTCH BOAT.

[Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph."]

THE BALKAN SITUATION.

FRENCH GAIN STRONG NATURAL POSITIONS.

February 12, 2.15 p.m.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Paris, French war correspondents at Salonica say that the enemy still shows no offensive tactics, but that the French have advanced and crossed the Vardar and have installed themselves on the right bank of the river, in the important regions of Yenitso and Verria, immediately constructing defence works. They have thus gained strong natural positions which might prove invaluable against the enemy's heavy guns. The announcement of further Allied reinforcements enhances interest in the movement.
It is believed that the Germans are preparing for a raid on Salonica with three Zeppelins and twenty aeroplanes.

AUSTRIA AND GERMANY ALARMED!

February 12, 3.35 p.m.
The battle of Cernowitz, in which the Russians are taking a strong initiative, is daily increasing in importance and is causing the utmost anxiety to the Austrians and Germans.
Railway communication between Russia and Roumania is interrupted owing to the movement of troops in Bessarabia. This, combined with the French move on the Vardar, opens a new phase in the Balkans, and the Germans openly continue to express fears of Roumania joining the Allies.

NO OCCUPATION OF YENITSO AND VERRIA.

February 12, 10.10 p.m.
Reuter's correspondent at Salonica has been assured that there has been no occupation of Yenitso and Verria; there have been only cavalry reconnaissances.

M. BRIAND AND CARDINAL MERCIER.

February 12, 3.45 p.m.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Rome, M. Briand and Cardinal Mercier had a cordial conversation.

SPAIN'S NEW AFRICAN POLICY.

SEÑOR MONTARIA'S STRIKING STATEMENT.

February 12, 3.45 p.m.
Reuter's correspondent at Madrid says that a striking statement of Spanish policy in Africa was made by the ex-Minister Señor Montaria, who said: It is indispensable that Spain should occupy the coast opposite the Canaries, as well as Inf, and join up with the Tangier Spanish territory, in order to avoid its passing into the hands of other nations.
The Premier was present and congratulated Señor Montaria most heartily.

MR. GARRISON'S RESIGNATION.

AMERICAN PRESS CRITICISMS.

February 12, 1.35 p.m.
Reuter's New York correspondent says that the resignation of Mr. Lindley M. Garrison (Secretary for War) is due to his disagreement with President Wilson's foreign policy as lacking in vigour and his disapproval of the proposed abandonment of the Philippines.
The *Republican Press* says that the departure of such a strong man constitutes another evil omen for the Wilson administration.

The *New York Herald* says that the present situation at Washington is far worse than at any time during the war. The United States has fallen into the German trap designed to hamper Allied shipping by preventing its admission into American ports.

It is suggested in New York that one motive for the United States' acquiescence to the German policy is the hope of securing the passage of a Government Shipping Purchase Bill. It is taken for granted that Great Britain and her Allies will not disarm their merchantmen and it is pointed out that the right of arming them is immemorial, and established by American as well as British decisions.

GERMAN'S TORPEDO DUTCH BOAT.

"A BASELESS PRETEXT."

February 12, 4.30 p.m.
It transpires that thirty six Chinese were aboard the Dutch tank steamer, the *Artemis*, which a German torpedo boat sank off the Dutch coast upon the baseless pretext that there had been a breach of orders.

The crew were given five minutes grace to get into the boats, but the torpedo was fired before the expiry of that time. The German boat steamed off without concerning itself about the safety of the crew, but, happily, the tanks kept the *Artemis* afloat and the crew were able to return aboard.

LATEST WAR TELEGRAMS.

GENERAL SMUT'S APPOINTMENT.

SOUTH AFRICA'S WARM APPRECIATION.

February 12, 3.35 p.m.
Reuter's correspondent at Cape Town says that the appointment of General Smuts to the East African command is warmly appreciated in South Africa, although the circumstances rendering General Smith Darrien's participation impossible are regretted.

THE ENTENTE AND AMERICA.

REPRESENTATIONS CONCERNING MERCHANTMEN.

February 12, 9.50 p.m.
Reuter's correspondent at Washington says that representatives of the Entente have made oral representations to Mr. Lansing regarding the American memorandum of January 29, concerning the disarming of merchantmen.
It is understood that Mr. Lansing has informed the Entente that he is unwilling to adopt the suggestion.

THE NAVAL INTRIGUE.

ADMIRALS AGAINST LORD FISHER'S RETURN.

February 12, 1.35 p.m.
Admirals Sir Noel Moore and Sir Atkinson Willes (retired) write to the *Morning Post* supporting its protests against the "intrigue" to bring Lord Fisher back to the Admiralty, and declare that the majority of Naval men have perfect confidence in Mr. Balfour and his naval colleagues, especially Admiral Sir Henry B. Jackson.

MUNITIONS OUTPUT.

2834 CONTROLLED ESTABLISHMENTS.

February 12, 1.35 p.m.
The Ministry of Munitions announces that there are now 2834 controlled establishments.

NORWEGIAN STEAMER MINED.

February 12, 1.35 p.m.
The Norwegian steamer *Vasli* has been mined off Terschelling. The Captain, chief engineer and second mate have been drowned.

GERMAN BANKS FAIL.

THOUSANDS OF DEPOSITORS RUINED.

February 12, 1.35 p.m.
The *Gazette* at Lausanne announces that the two of the largest banks in Southern Germany are in liquidation. The liabilities amount to twenty-five millions sterling, and thousands of depositors are ruined.

FRENCH MISSION TO ITALY.

A PERFECT AGREEMENT REACHED.

February 12, 1.35 p.m.
At banquets in Rome the most cordial speeches have been made by M. Briand, Signor Salandra and Baron Sonnino, emphasising unity of action. M. Briand, after an interview with Baron Sonnino yesterday morning, said that the Franco-Italian agreement, on all its points, was absolutely perfect. His visit had convinced him of the sincerity and clearheadedness of Italy's policy.

A CONFERENCE IN PARIS.

February 12, 10.20 p.m.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Rome at a conference between MM. Briand and Bourgeois and Baron Sonnino to-day, it was agreed to hold, in Paris, as soon as possible, a conference between the representatives of the Allies, with a view to the closest co-operation.

THE ALLIES IN THE WEST.

FRENCH CAPTURE ENEMY TRENCHES.

February 12, 5.30 p.m.
A Paris communique says that in Champagne we effected a grove attack. Near Mermil Hill we captured three hundred metres of enemy trenches and repulsed a nocturnal counter-attack, taking sixty-five prisoners.

RUSSIANS PROGRESS IN THE CAUCASUS.

(Havas Telegram).

February 11.
It is reported from Petrograd that to the east of Tchemerine, we captured the heights, repulsed counter-attacks. South-east of Trebon we carried fortified heights, taking prisoners. We progressed in the Caucasus, and, southward of Hamaian best important enemy forces. The Tsar has left for the front.
Near Keredas, a Cossack patrolling party arrested four Europeans, including the Turkish Ambassador.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

ARMED MERCHANTMEN.

February 11, 5.10 p.m.
Reuter's correspondent at Washington says the Austro-German memoranda with regard to armed merchantmen is expected to lead to the Government warning Americans that they travel by armed merchantmen at their own risk, thus reversing the previous policy that merchantmen should be allowed guns for self-defence and that Americans have the right to travel on the high seas unmolested.

WAR TELEGRAMS.

BELGIUM'S SACRIFICE.

February 11, 5.00 p.m.
Mons. J. Benkin, the Belgian Colonial Minister, on being banquetted in London, made a notable speech. He said that Belgium had sacrificed herself for her plighted word. The responsibilities for the hostilities in Central Africa rested entirely with Germany, who dreamt of creating a vast colonial Trans-African Empire at the expense of Belgium. To-day this dream had vanished and everywhere the forces of the Allies were over-flowing German territory. Mr. Benkin Law, who presided, paid a tribute to the heroic Belgians and emphasised that the end of the war would not come till Belgium's wrongs have been avenged.

FORD PEACE CONFERENCE OPENED.

February 11, 5.10 p.m.
Reuter's correspondent at Stockholm says the Ford Peace Conference has opened.

GERMAN-AMERICAN PLOTS.

February 11, 5.10 p.m.
Reuter's correspondent at San Francisco states that the Federal Grand Jury has returned sixty-one indictments in connection with the alleged German conspiracies to violate American neutrality.

TURKS REPORT GREAT BATTLES.

February 11, 5.45 p.m.
A Turkish communique reports two violent battles with General Aylmer on the right bank of the Tigris, but no change near Kut.

CAMEROON GERMANS FOR SPAIN.

February 11, 6.55 p.m.
Reuter's correspondent at Madrid states that the German soldiers for internment in Spain, from the Cameroons, number 2,600, and with their families they total over four thousand.

BULGARIA'S ATTITUDE.

February 11, 6.55 p.m.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam the Bulgarian War Minister in an interview emphasises that Bulgaria is fighting only for herself and has declared that as soon as the Salonica campaign is finished the war would be over for Bulgaria.

THE BRITISH NAVY.

February 10, 8.25 p.m.
The editors of twenty French provincial papers and a number of distinguished neutral journalists visited the battle-cruiser fleet and were deeply impressed with the might of the British navy. It is the world's greatest concentration, of speed, combined with gun-power, with fresh and alert officers and men, despite the long waiting in constant battle array. The visitors considered it a wonderful manifestation of sea power, as this fleet is only one of three tremendous lines of offence and defence.

MINE-SWEEPERS ATTACKED.

February 11, 9.60 p.m.
A German destroyer flotilla attacked four British mine-sweepers on the Dogger Bank yesterday night. They sank one, the *Arctis*, and attempted to torpedo another which rescued three British officers and twenty-one men. A Berlin communique attempts to devise a great victory from this by calling the mine-sweepers cruisers. The British Admiralty announces that the other three mine-sweepers returned safely.

THE ALLIES IN THE WEST.

HOSTILE ARTILLERY BUSY.

February 11, 11.35 p.m.
General Sir Douglas Haig reports: We sprang three mines north of Carnoy and another south of Fosse eight. The enemy sprang a mine south-west of the "Hohenzollern Redoubt" but we had no casualties. Hostile artillery was active north of Albert, Loos and Ypres and the enemy shelled Armentieres and Elverdinghe.

VIOLENT COUNTER-ATTACK REPULSED.

February 12, 1.25 a.m.
A Paris communique says: In Belgium our field guns seriously damaged an enemy fort. We blew up munitions depots near the Paschendaels Canal in Artois. There was an intermission: cannonade near the Lille Road, south of the Somme on the 8th and 9th February. We recaptured a large part of the trenches south of Frise and repulsed a violent counter-attack north of the Aisne. On the Heights of the Meuse our artillery wrecked enemy works.

THE RUSSIANS.

BOMBARDING TURKISH COAST.

February 11, 11.25 p.m.
A Petrograd communique reports a heavy artillery duel on the Rigi front. German attacks were repulsed elsewhere. Russian torpedo boats continue to bombard the Turkish coast.

ACCIDENT ON THE CRICKET GROUND.

Two Well-known Players Sustain Bad Injuries.

The cricket match on the Hongkong Cricket Club ground on Saturday afternoon was marked by a nasty accident, as a result of which two of the Club's best-known and most popular members—Mr. Richard Hancock and Mr. C. A. Hooper—received rather bad injuries.

The Club team was fielding at the time, and the players named both ran to catch the ball when they came into violent collision. Both were immediately stunned, and examination revealed the fact that they were badly cut about the head and face. Mr. Hancock received a serious cut above the eye, and his forehead was also badly injured; while Mr. Hooper sustained a number of facial cuts and had several teeth knocked out. Both were removed to their homes, where they received medical attention, a number of men having to be present.

On enquiry to-day, we learn that both are progressing as well as can be expected. The many friends of both gentlemen will hear of the accident with a much regret and will wish for them a speedy recovery from their injuries.

VOLUNTEER RESERVE ORDERS.

H. K. V. R. Order No. 16, issued yesterday by Major Wakeman, Commanding H. K. V. R., state:—

Parades for the week ending the 19th inst.
"A," "B" and "C" Companies on the Cricket Ground on Friday the 18th inst. at 5.15 p.m. for Battalion Drill. Dress: drill order.

Recruits on the Cricket Ground on Monday the 14th inst., Wednesday the 16th inst., and Thursday the 17th inst., at 5.15 p.m. Dress: drill order.

Signalling Section will parade at Volunteer Headquarters on Monday the 14th inst., Wednesday the 16th inst., and Friday the 18th inst., at 5.15 p.m. Uniform to be worn.

Musketry.
Members of "D" Co., who are able to do so, will attend at King's Park Range on Wednesday, the 16th inst., at 2.15 p.m., to fire Part I Musketry Course. Names of those attending to be sent to the Adjutant by 2 p.m. on Tuesday, the 15th inst.

Detail.
On duty until the morning of the 18th inst.—"A" Co.

Note:—N. C. O.s and men doing duty at Tai-ho-wan and Stonecutters will receive pay a coming to rank and allowance (in lieu of pay) for the duty they are on duty. O's "C" Companies will submit pay sheets (in duplicate) monthly.

Reversion.
Corpl. A. Edwards reverts to the ranks at his own request and is posted to Co. "C" Section 3.

Posting.
Pte. C. E. P. 117, having joined, is allotted Corps No. 586 and posted to Co. "B" Section 1.

Notice.
The Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., has kindly presented a handsome trophy to the Corps for Rifle Shooting. Details will be published in due course.

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